

BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF GEM STATE WATER) CASE NO. GSW-W-19-01
COMPANY, LLC'S APPLICATION FOR)
APPROVAL OF ACQUISITION OF THE) NOTICE OF APPLICATION
ASSETS OF THE WATER BUSINESS OF)
HAPPY VALLEY WATER SYSTEM INC.) NOTICE OF
AND BITTERROOT WATER CO., INC.) MODIFIED PROCEDURE
)
) ORDER NO. 34516

On November 18, 2019, Gem State Water Company, LLC (Gem State Water) applied to the Commission for approval of its acquisition of the water business assets of Happy Valley Water System, Inc. (Happy Valley) and Bitterroot Water Co., Inc. (Bitterroot). The Company also asked for approval to transfer Happy Valley and Bitterroot's certificates of public convenience and necessity to Gem State Water.

The Commission now issues this Notice of Application and Notice of Modified Procedure setting comment and reply deadlines.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that Happy Valley is a regulated water utility that services approximately 27 residential customers in north Idaho. Bitterroot is a regulated water utility that services approximately 160 residential customers in north Idaho. The same persons own Happy Valley and Bitterroot.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that Gem State Water states the transfer of ownership will not result in a change to Happy Valley and Bitterroot's rates.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that Gem State Water is an Idaho limited liability company created to own and operate water utilities in Idaho. Gem State Water, through its parent companies, is owned by Northwest Natural Holding Company.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Application is available for public inspection during regular business hours at the Commission's office. These documents are also available on the Commission's web site at www.puc.idaho.gov. Click on the "File Room" tab at the top of the page, scroll down to "Open Water Cases," and then click on the case number shown in the caption to this document.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION
NOTICE OF MODIFIED PROCEDURE
ORDER NO. 34516

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that all proceedings in this case will be held pursuant to the Commission's jurisdiction under Title 61 of the Idaho Code and specifically *Idaho Code* §§ 61-501, 61-502, and 61-503.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that all proceedings in this matter will be conducted pursuant to the Commission's Rules of Procedure, IDAPA 31.01.01.000 *et seq.*

NOTICE OF MODIFIED PROCEDURE

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Commission has determined that the public interest may not require a formal hearing in this matter, and that it will proceed under Modified Procedure pursuant to Rules 201 through 204 of the Commission's Rules of Procedure, IDAPA 31.01.01.201 through .204. The Commission notes that Modified Procedure and written comments have proven to be an effective means for obtaining public input and participation.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that any person desiring to state a position on this Application **must file a written comment in support or opposition with the Commission by February 19, 2020.** The comment must contain a statement of reasons supporting the comment. Persons desiring a hearing must specifically request a hearing in their written comments. Written comments concerning this Application shall be mailed to the Commission and the Company at the addresses reflected below:

For the Idaho Public Utilities Commission

Commission Secretary
Idaho Public Utilities Commission
PO Box 83720
Boise, ID 83720-0074

Street Address for Express Mail:

11331 W. Chinden Blvd.
Building 8, Suite 201-A
Boise, Idaho 83714

For Gem State Water:

Preston N. Carter
Givens Pursley LLP
601 W. Bannock St.
Boise, ID 83702
Email: prestoncarter@givenspursley.com
charliebaser@givenspursley.com
kendrah@givenspursley.com

Eric W. Nelsen
Senior Regulatory Attorney
NW Natural
220 NW 2nd Ave.
Portland, OR 97209
Email: Eric.Nelsen@nwnatural.com

These comments should contain the case caption and case number shown on the first page of this document. Persons desiring to submit comments via e-mail may do so by accessing the Commission's home page located at www.puc.idaho.gov. Click the "Consumers" tab then click the "Case Comment or Question Form" and complete the comment form using the case number as it appears on the front of this document.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Company must file any reply comments **by February 26, 2020**.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that if no written comments or protests are received within the time limit set, the Commission will consider this matter on its merits and enter its Order without a formal hearing. If written comments are received within the time limit set, the Commission will consider them and, in its discretion, may set the same for formal hearing.

ORDER

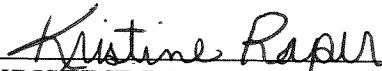
IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Company's Application be processed by Modified Procedure, Rule 201-204 (IDAPA 31.01.01.201-.204). Persons interested in submitting written comments must do so by February 19, 2020. The Company must file any reply comments by February 26, 2020.

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DONE by Order of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission at Boise, Idaho this 27th
day of December, 2019.



PAUL KJELLANDER, PRESIDENT

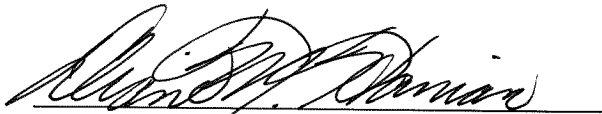


KRISTINE RAPER, COMMISSIONER



ERIC ANDERSON, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:



Diane M. Hanian
Commission Secretary

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